I/We claim:

1. A method for providing legacy application service to a client, the client operating in conformance with aggregate access server protocol (ASAP), said method comprising the steps of:

    requesting access to a legacy application via a proxy pool element;

    registering said legacy application with said proxy pool element; and

    selecting a legacy server to provide said legacy application to the client.

2. A method as in claim 1 further comprising the step of checking a status of said legacy application in response to said step of requesting access to said legacy application.

3. A method as in claim 2 wherein, in the selecting step, said legacy server comprises a daemon for providing said legacy application status to said proxy pool element.

4. A method as in claim 3 wherein said daemon provides said legacy application status by polling a process table in said legacy server.

5. A method as in claim 1 wherein said proxy pool element comprises an endpoint server operating in conformance with ASAP.

6. A method as in claim 1 wherein said step of selecting a legacy server comprises the step of making a selection based on a pre-established server selection criterion.

7. A method as in claim 6 wherein said pre-established server selection criterion is based on a policy established by a server administrative entity.

8. A method as in claim 6 wherein said pre-established server selection criterion comprises a member of the group consisting of: a round-robin selection, a first-in-first-out selection, transaction count, load availability, and number of concurrently-running applications.

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9. A server pool network suitable for providing application services to a client, said server network comprising:

> a name server pool including at least one physical element operating in accordance with aggregate server access protocol (ASAP), said physical element for providing an application service;

> an application server pool including a proxy pool element and at least one legacy application server, said legacy application server for providing a legacy application service, said proxy pool element having an ASAP layer for communicating with endpoint name resolution protocol (ENRP) components; and

> an ENRP server in communication with said name server pool and said proxy pool element, said ENRP server for providing said application service and said legacy application service to the client.

10. A server pool network as in claim 9 wherein said proxy pool element further comprises means for receiving an application status from said at least one legacy application server.

11. A server pool network as in claim 9 wherein said proxy pool element further comprises means for registering a legacy application resident in said at least one legacy application server.

12. A server pool network as in claim 9 wherein said proxy pool element further comprises means for establishing a pooling configuration used for load balancing.

13. A server pool network as in claim 12 wherein said pooling configuration comprises a list of available application servers and a server selection criterion.

14. A server pool network as in claim 9 wherein said legacy application server comprises a daemon for providing an application status to said proxy pool element.

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15.   A server pool network as in claim 14 wherein said legacy application server further comprises a configuration file and a dynamic notification application for providing said configuration file to said daemon.

16.   A server pool network as in claim 14 wherein said legacy application server further comprises a process table for retaining application status, and wherein said daemon includes means for polling said process table.

17.   A proxy pool element comprising:

an application server access protocol (ASAP) layer for communicating with endpoint name resolution protocol (ENRP) components; and

means for generating an application server list.

18.   A proxy pool element as in claim 17 further comprising means for performing registration and de-registration of a legacy application.

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